



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Kouichiro HARA

Group Art Unit: 2622

U.S. Serial No.: 09/725,448

Filed: November 30, 2000

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: AUTO SETTLEMENT SYSTEM USING LOCKER

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

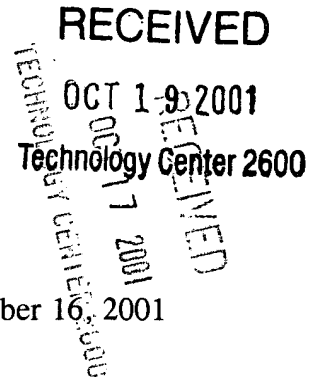
October 16, 2001

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.



The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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Atty. Docket No. 001525

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Enclosures: PTO-1449 and 2 references



<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449</b>	Atty. Docket No. 001525	Serial No. 09/725,448
	Applicant(s): Kouichiro HARA	
	Filing Date: November 30, 2000	Group Art Unit: 2622

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA	4,894,717	Komei	01/16/90	358	108	<b>RECEIVED</b> OCT 19 2001 Technology Center 2600
_____	AB						
_____	AC						
_____	AD						
_____	AE						

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____	AF	9-330458	12/22/97	Japan	No
_____	AG				
_____	AH				
_____	AI				
_____	AJ				

### OTHER DOCUMENTS

_____	AK		<b>RECEIVED</b> OCT 17 2001 TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600
Examiner		Date Considered	